

other rodent I have measured; their face with the usual deep outer and obsolescent inner groove. Lower incisors with one broad and partially doubled external groove and the usual obsolescent inner one.

Dimensions of the type (measured on the dry skin):—

Head and body 158 mm.; tail 75; hind foot 26; ear 20.

Skull: tip of nasals to back of frontals 27·5; zygomatic breadth 18·5; nasals 16·5 × 7·5; interorbital breadth 4·1; breadth of brain-case 14·5; height of supraorbital edge from alveolus of  $m^2$  11·6; palatilar length 16·3; diastema 8·5; upper molar series 8·2.

*Hab.* Cameroons Mountains. Alt. 7000'.

*Type.* Old female. B.M. no. 7.1.1.196. Collected by "Capt. Burton, H.M. Consul of Fernando Po," later Sir Richard Burton. Received with the collection of Mr. R. F. Tomes.

This Cameroons *Otomys*, widely isolated as it is geographically from all other members of the genus, seems to be most nearly allied to certain of the Central African species, among which, by Dollman's synopsis, it comes closest to *O. tropicalis nubilus* of the Mount Kenya region. It is, however, conspicuously smaller than that animal, nor can I find any other to which it could be assigned.

I have named it in honour of its famous collector, Sir Richard Burton, to whose ability and energies as a naturalist too little credit has been generally given.

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## XXII.—*The Hedgehog of Palestine and Asia Minor.*

By OLDFIELD THOMAS.

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WHEN writing his paper on the subspecies of *Erinaceus europæus* \* Barrett Hamilton referred five specimens in the British Museum from Mount Lebanon to *Erinaceus concolor*, Martin, described from Trebizond. The type of the latter being wholly black it seemed abnormal, and on this account Barrett Hamilton could not distinguish the Mt. Lebanon specimens from it.

Since that date, however, further knowledge and further material bearing on the question of *E. concolor* has accrued. Miller has shown the definite distinction of *E. roumanicus*

\* Ann. & Mag. N. H. (7) v. p. 360 (1900).

and the forms related to it from *E. europæus* and its allies. This distinction rests mainly in the greater extension in the former of the maxillary bones, which reach further back, so as to coincide almost exactly with the muscular fossa\* of this region. In *europæus*, on the other hand, the fronto-maxillary suture traverses the fossa a marked distance in front of its hinder limit.

Examination of the typical skull of *E. concolor* now shows that its structure is as in *E. europæus*, not as in *E. roumanicus*, and it therefore agrees with certain other forms of this character which Saturnin has shown to occur in Transcaucasia, so that it cannot be looked upon in any way as abnormal. Moreover, the same author has described a dark "*E. ponticus*" and a black "*E. ponticus abasgicus*" from the eastern shores of the Black Sea, which would show that a naturally black hedgehog does occur in this region. Probably Saturnin's animals are, one or both, referable to *E. concolor*.

This being the case, it is evident that the Palestine and Asia Minor hedgehog, which belongs to the *roumanicus* type, only needs comparison with the last-named species, of which it may be considered a subspecies, as follows:—

*Erinaceus roumanicus sacer*, subsp. n.

General colour brown, about as in *E. europæus*, the head not blackened. Spines with one subterminal dark band. Fur of face, chest, and fore-limbs with a considerable mixture of white hairs, that of the sides and belly uniformly brown.

Skull, on the whole, like that of *roumanicus*, but distinguished by the much greater length and development of the lacrymal crests, which in that animal are reduced to a mere projecting knob above the lacrymal foramen, but in the new form are as long as in *E. europæus*, running back quite to the hinder corner of the muscular fossa above referred to, and being traceable further back still as a ridge across the frontals. Transverse occipital crest relatively higher, projecting above the level of the brain-case.

Dimensions of type:—

Hind foot (c.) 39 mm.

Skull: condylo-basal length 60; zygomatic breadth 37·5; nasals 19·5 × 4; premaxillo-nasal suture 11; maxillo-nasal suture 2·5; distance from posterior end of premaxillæ to upper hinder corner of maxillæ 11·5; interorbital breadth 17;

\* Apparently, judging from Dobson, that of the upper half of the *levator labii superioris proprius*.

intertemporal breadth 14·7; palatal length 33·3; upper tooth-row 31.

*Hab.* Palestine and Asia Minor. Type from near Jerusalem.

*Type.* Adult female with worn teeth. B.M. no. 18. 8. 1. 2. Collected May 1918 during the British campaign, and presented by Capt. Guy C. Shortridge.

Of this hedgehog the Museum contains five specimens, with imperfect skulls, from Mt. Lebanon, presented by Saleem Baroodi, a fine old female from Tortoum near Erzeroum, collected by R. B. Woosnam, and another from Kara Dagħ near Konia, presented by L. Ramsay, in addition to the present specimen (the type). I have thought it wise to select as type a specimen from the farthest southern known extension of the group—that is, of the restricted genus *Erinaceus*,—the hedgehogs from further south and east being referable to *Hemiechinus*.

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XXIII.—*On a new Jumping Mite of the Genus Nanorchestes from the Mendip Hills.* By STANLEY HIRST.

THE mite dealt with in the present note is of interest, owing to the fact that the only species of the genus hitherto described (viz. *Nanorchestes amphibius*, Topsent & Trouessart) lives on the sea-shore, between the tide limits or slightly above them. This littoral species was discovered by M. Topsent at Luc-sur-Mer (Calvados), France, and afterwards found by the author at St. Catherine's Point, Isle of Wight. The new species described below has a very different habitat, for it lives on the summit of the Mendip Hills at an altitude of over 800 feet and more than eight miles from the sea-coast.

*Nanorchestes collinus*, sp. n.

General appearance very like *N. amphibius*, Tops. & Trouess., but smaller in size. Hairs on dorsal surface of cephalothorax also very similar. The curious unpaired median structure between the chelicerae is present and strongly curved. This new species differs from *N. amphibius* in the following details of structure :—Dorsal hair on chelicera slender and dividing close to the base into two plumose branches, the outer one being considerably longer than the